

CLAIMS:

A method of restricting license key(s) distribution to intended user of a software product, comprising

- a. a method of generating keys, which is based upon a verifiable personal piece of information, like Social Security Number or Credit Card Number of the said user
- b. a mechanism that generates key/s to be distributed to the said user for the said software, such that the said mechanism generates keys utilizing the said verifiable personal information, using a transformation algorithm that suitably converts the said verifiable information into a license key
- c. a similar mechanism as described in (b) used for authentication, such that
 - 1. it is embedded in the said software or an install software program for the said software
 - 2. it prompts for the same verifiable personal piece of information that was provided while purchasing the license by the said user, and
 - 3. it internally generates a key based on the provided information to match with the said key obtained by the said user at the time of purchase and provided for authentication when prompted by the said installer program or the said software

whereby, the said license key can only be authenticated using the said verifiable information used to generate it.